

Amendments to the Specification:

Please amend the specification by inserting the “replacement” text set forth below, marked up to show the changes made relative to the immediately prior version of the indicated text.¹

Please amend the title of the invention at page 1 as follows:

ELECTRON BEAM PHYSICAL VAPOR DEPOSITION APPARATUS
~~AND METHOD OF USING~~

At page 1, immediately following the title of the invention, insert the following heading:

CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

The paragraph at page 1, lines 1-3, is amended as follows:

This application is a divisional patent application of co-pending U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/299,646, filed November 19, 2002, which is a divisional patent application of U.S. Patent Application Serial No.

¹ Strikethroughs indicate deletions and underlining indicates insertions.

09/624,809, filed July 24, 2000, now abandoned, which claims benefit of Provisional Patent Application No. 60/147,236, filed August 4, 1999.

The paragraph at page 14, line 33-page 15, line 12, is amended as follows:

To further isolate the EB guns 30 from the elevated pressure within the coating region defined by the condensate hood 52, the beams 28 travel from their respective guns 30 through chambers 64 formed between the interior walls of the coating chamber 12 and the condensate hood 52. As shown in Figure 6, each of the chambers 64 is formed by an upper wall of the coating chamber 12 and side walls attached to the upper wall of the coating chamber 12. In Figure 6, the lower end of each chamber 64 is shown as being closed by a wall parallel to the wall of the condensate hood 52 in which the apertures 62 are formed. The condensate hood 52 is unattached to the walls of the chambers 64, so that the hood 52 can be moved within the coating chamber 12 independent of the chambers 64 and their function. Preferably, the diffusion pump 34 has an inlet near and pneumatically coupled to each of the chambers 64. Because of the minimum size of the apertures 62, the elevated pressure within the condensate hood 52 (achieved by the introduction of oxygen and argon with the inlet 54) bleeds into the chambers 64 at a sufficiently reduced rate to enable the diffusion pump 34 to maintain the chambers 64 at a pressure lower than that within the condensate hood 52.